



ADJC TODAY

The mission of the Arizona Department of Juvenile Corrections is to enhance public protection by changing the delinquent thinking and behaviors of juvenile offenders committed to the Department.

JANET NAPOLITANO, GOVERNOR

DAVID A. GASPAR, DIRECTOR

May 2003

MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

Making The Community Whole - Remembering Crime Victims' Rights



Recently, the nation focused its attention on crime victims through the National Crime Victims' Rights Week.

In remarks to commemorate observance of the week, Governor Janet Napolitano asked that all state agencies observe a moment of silence in memory of victims of crime.

In support of this effort, I asked that all Arizona Department of Juvenile Corrections' (ADJC) staff and youth observe the scheduled moment of silence.

This was an important symbol of our commitment as a Department to the overall process of restoration and rehabilitation of youth, of which victim empathy and understanding is crucial.

The observance of the silence was a powerful teaching tool for youth. It was one of the many ways we demonstrate our dedication to ADJC's Value # 5, "ADJC will cause committed youth to contribute to the restoration of victims and communities they have harmed."

Evidence suggests that each crime committed effects between seven to ten family members of each victim; that each crime committed makes victims of both the offender's and victim's families; and that once touched by an offense, no matter how seemingly insignificant, a life, can never be returned to exactly what it was.

As we labor to enhance public protection by changing the delinquent thinking and behaviors of juveniles committed to the Department, let us not lose sight that victims are our partners in the effort to hold juveniles accountable for their behavior.

We do well to honor the principles of Restorative Justice by requiring youth to acknowledge the harm they have inflicted and to facilitate reparation for the victims, their families, and the community as a whole. It is one of the most important measures by which we will be judged. É

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ADJC Demonstrates Commitment To Victims' Rights As Part Of Restorative Justice

by Katrina Montano, Restorative Justice Administrator, Legal Systems Division

***Victims are our partners in an
effort to hold juveniles ac-
countable for their behavior.***

The Arizona Department of Juvenile Corrections (ADJC) is committed to embracing a restorative approach to engaging victims and the community to aid juveniles in recognizing and making amends for the harms they have caused.

The ADJC Victims' Rights Office was established in 1996 to comply with statutory requirements to provide notification services to victims. In 2001, changes in ADJC's population and other system changes prompted the development of an automated system of managing victim data and generating notices. In the same year, enhancements were made to the system of tracking restitution. Also, in 2001, a grant was secured to provide for the Victims' Rights Office to formally provide advocacy services for victims of violent offenses.

In 2002, the agency formalized its commitment to the Balanced and Restorative Justice Philosophy by incorporating specific goals and measures that address efforts to restore victims and engage the community. ADJC is committed to the Restorative Justice philosophy that is characterized by four principles:

1. Crime is a violation of people and relationships.
2. Crime creates obligations to make things right.
3. Justice involves the victim, the offender, and the community.
4. Justice seeks solutions, which promotes repair, reconciliation, and reassurance.

EXAMPLES OF SUCCESS

ADJC's efforts have resulted in significant successes.

C The advocacy and support services afforded to victims associated with juveniles committed to ADJC have paved the way for victim involvement in the processes in which release decisions are made, community supervision plans are developed, and restitution is addressed. Fifty-one victims participated in hearings this past calendar year (2002) either directly or through representation. Victims report appreciation for the support, have found the effort helpful in obtaining answers, beneficial in promoting safety for their community and experiencing justice.

C Increased involvement by victims has also led to subsequent meetings between the offender and the victim to address the details of the offense not otherwise afforded. These meetings have increased juvenile accountability to the victim and have resulted in individualized offender supervision plans that specifically incorporate provisions for addressing the victims needs (e.g. no contact provisions, methods for monitoring no contact, setting expectations for restitution, etc.).

C Over the past three fiscal years, progress has been made in directing restitution payments for victims. In calendar year 2000, restitution payments to counties totaled \$27,976; in calendar year 2001, restitution payments increased to \$51,971; and in calendar year 2002, restitution payments totaled \$64,545. Collection figures indicate a 231% increase in restitution payments from FY'00 to FY'02.

As we continue our daily efforts with youth, let us not forget that victims' issues play an important role in the restoration and rehabilitation of juveniles committed to the Department. É

Arizona Among First To Adopt New Interstate Compact For Juveniles

House Bill 2106, sponsored by Representative Steve Tully, R-Phoenix, has passed both chambers of the Legislature and is awaiting Governor Janet Napolitano's signature.

The bill is a part of a national effort underway for each signatory state to adopt revised Interstate Compact language. The intent of the new Compact is to address issues related to victims, improved supervision for juveniles, and enforcement.

As the entity responsible for managing the Interstate Compact for Juveniles in Arizona, ADJC strongly supported adoption of the new language.

Since 1955, the Interstate Compact for Juveniles has provided the sole authority for regulating the transfer of juvenile probation and parole supervision across state boundaries. All fifty states are signatories.

The Interstate Compact provides a mechanism for:

- Returning runaways who cross state lines,
- Supervising juveniles on probation or parole when families move or the youth is placed with a family member,
- Returning juveniles who escape from institutions or abscond from probation or parole,
- Returning juveniles pending a court appearance, including dependency.

The existing Compact was created when approximately 200 offenders were supervised outside of the states where they were adjudicated. According to the Council of State Governments, more than 20,000 juvenile parolees and probationers are now supervised under the Compact.

The new compact will:

1. Most importantly, provide for better and more consistent supervision of juveniles,
2. Recognize the rights and interests of victims,
3. Allow states to operate under the same set of rules,
4. Provide greater flexibility for adaptation to each state's system, and
5. Provide a mechanism for input by individual states.

The proposed Compact language is a product of the cooperative efforts of many organizations, some of which are the: National District Attorneys Association, National Institute of Corrections, National Centers for Victims of Crime, Child Welfare League of America, and the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges.

Roughly, 852 juvenile probationers and parolees moved in or out of the state under the Interstate Compact this past year.

To date, the revised Compact language has been adopted by North Dakota, Montana, and New Mexico. Arizona and Washington are close behind. Additionally, the revised Compact language is under consideration in more than 15 other states.

The existing Compact language will remain in effect until one year after 35 states have adopted the new language. The year after ratification by 35 states will be the transition period. The administrative structures to facilitate the new Compact will be developed.

The new Compact language becomes effective after the transition year. É

***The new Interstate Compact
language addresses the rights
and interests of victims in a
more meaningful manner.***

Governor Napolitano Issues Executive Order Ensuring Benefits For Arizona's Armed Forces

Governor Napolitano has marshaled the resources of state government to ensure those serving our country are fully supported.

Governor Janet Napolitano recently issued Executive Order 2003-10. The order extends benefits and protections for Arizona servicemen and women through 12 separate directives for state agency leaders to review or expand accommodations for those serving our nation.

Some of the provisions include direction to:

- State agency heads to review agency policies to assess whether they can and should be modified to provide additional protections and/or benefits to state employees who have been called to active duty since September 2002;
- The Department of Administration to extend the continuity of health care and life insurance benefits for at least 12 months to state employees called up for military active duty;
- The Department of Insurance to take appropriate measures to protect the rights of military personnel to continue, suspend or convert health insurance benefits during times of active duty;
- The Department of Revenue to review and ensure full compliance with federal law extending tax return filing dates and other required payments and reports for military personnel serving in a combat zone.

To see Executive Order 2003-10 in its entirety, logon to ADJC's Intranet site at: <http://intranet.adjc.az.gov/>. É

MIS Update

by Susan Lucero, Information Technology Specialist, Management Information Systems

In an effort to better assist the staff of the Arizona Department of Juvenile Corrections (ADJC), the Management Information Systems (MIS) Division continues to review current usage and application of the Department's technology resources.

In response to the ongoing review, MIS will be upgrading the e-mail system to the highest version of GroupWise, 6.5. The upgrade will provide expanded features to include the following:

- **Contacts Folder:** This will be added and will work similar to the address book. It will also allow you to enter a summary.
- **Checklist Folder:** This will replace the current TASK folder. You can move any items to this folder and arrange them in the order you want, to create a "task list." Each item has a box so you can mark it upon completion.
- **Categories:** This offers the ability to color-code the four category type of items: follow-up, low priority, personal, and urgent.
- **Editing Subject Lines:** An additional subject line will be added to appointments in the calendar.

If you have any questions, please contact MIS at (602) 542-0289. É

ADJC Today is the employee newsletter of the Arizona Department of Juvenile Corrections. Unless noted otherwise, articles are written by Communications Division staff. For comments or input, please contact the Communications Office at (602) 542-4497. This document is available in an alternative format upon request.